

# SOLONS OF THE ISLES

## Senate Porto Rican Committee Reports.

(From Wednesday's daily.)

The entire morning session of the Senate was given over to the usual performance of killing time. Long-winded and unnecessary speeches were made on the different matters that came up before them.

Immediately after the opening of the session, Clerk Cayless read the following communication, addressed to him by the foreman of the Grand Jury, now sitting:

Room of the Grand Jury, Honolulu, T. H., May 14th, 1901.

Edgar Cayless, Esq., Secretary of the Senate, Territorial Legislature.

Sir:—The Grand Jury requests you to furnish a certified copy of any writing from the Governor of the Territory to the Legislature or a Committee thereof in which a statement or intimation is made that members of the Legislature had been offered or received bribes, or tended to influence them in their action and in their conduct as public officials, and a reply to this is desired at your earliest convenience.

Very respectfully yours,  
J. O. CARTER,  
Foreman of Grand Jury.

Cecil Brown moved the clerk be instructed to answer the communication, and send the Grand Jury the message from the Governor in which bribery was mentioned.

Senator Achi called attention to the fact that the letter was addressed to the clerk and not the Senate, and moved that the clerk be authorized to do as he pleased about it.

Cecil Brown said the clerk was all that was left of the late Legislature, as soon as he turned over to the Territorial Secretary all his documents, etc., he would be a "dead one." He hoped the Senate would be courteous and do all in their power to supply the desired information.

"Oily" Bill White supported Brown. Carter said as the clerk was temporary custodian of the records of the late session, he could do as he pleased in regard to the matter.

"The Grand Jury," continued Mr. Carter, "is not going to do anything. They know what they are going to do beforehand, from the complexion of the men on the jury, and the letter does not mean anything one way or another. What information we can give them will not help them in any way, as they know as much about the bribery charges as we do."

These remarks stirred up the Independents, and a half a dozen jumped to their feet, clamoring for recognition. Senator Crabbe managed to be heard to move that the Grand Jury be given any old thing wanted.

Kanaha, Kalaauokalani and a few more were all speaking at once. Kanaha was more vehement in his utterance, and finally gained recognition. What he said could not be learned, as Bush was utterly unable to catch the drift of his "hot air" on the account of the many interruptions made during the course of the honorable member's remarks.

Senator Crabbe called the honorable member to order, for talking off the subject, and was sustained by the chair, who ordered Kanaha to take his seat. Senator Crabbe then moved that the Grand Jury be given the desired information.

The clerk then read the following invitation from the local G. A. R. post, asking the members to be present at their Memorial Day exercises. The invitation was accepted with thanks:

Honolulu, H. T., May 14th, 1901.

Hon. S. E. Kalia, President of Senate, Territory of Hawaii.

Dear Sir:—Through you Geo. W. De Long Post No. 45, G. A. R., cordial invitation to a most honorable body, to participate with them in the observance of Memorial Day on the 30th inst.

Respectfully yours,  
R. JAY GREENE,  
Chairman of Committee.

A brief respite was then enjoyed by the members, while listening to the following report presented by Senator Baldwin on the Porto Rican investigation matter:

REPORT OF BALDWIN FOR SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE PORTO RICANS.

Honolulu, May 15th, 1901.

Hon. S. E. Kalia, President of the Senate.

Sir:—Your special committee appointed under the House Concurrent Resolution, which called for a joint committee of the House and Senate to visit the quarantine station and investigate the condition of a lot of Porto Ricans that had just been landed from the S. S. "Colon," beg leave to report that in company with the House Committee we went yesterday to the wharf of Quarantine Island and were allowed by the Federal officer in charge to go to the quarantine buildings. We however saw most of the Porto Ricans on the quarantine wharf, as they embarked on the boats of the "Kinau," which steamer was then nearly ready to start for Maui and Hawaii. A number of the Porto Ricans were shipped to Hawaii on the "Mauna Loa" in the forenoon, some were sent to plantations on Oahu, and a large number were shipped on the "Kinau" to Hawaii.

The general appearance of this lot of Porto Ricans was better than we anticipated, although they bore evidence of poor living in their own country, and your committee should say that about 10 per cent of them were troubled with what the medical members of your committee, Dr. Russell, called "Erasical" Worm, a complaint which is more or less prevalent among the working classes here on these islands. Dr. Russell also believed that two or three of them had contracted fever, but he could see no reason why they should be further retained on quarantine island inasmuch as about sixteen days had elapsed since they left Porto Rico, provided the Board of Health could find no signs of infectious disease among the immigrants and further provided that their

clothes and personal effects were thoroughly disinfected. In this opinion your committee concur.

Your committee on investigation ascertained that the immigrants had been thoroughly examined and that under the supervision of Messrs. Charles and McVeigh, officers in charge at the quarantine station, they had a thorough physical examination and that their clothes and personal effects were thoroughly disinfected in the government disinfecting steam plant, a certificate to which effect from said officers is herewith attached.

The Porto Ricans appear to be a mixture of the Spanish race and the aboriginal inhabitants of Porto Rico and are somewhat like the Portuguese, though as a rule not so robust. The Porto Rican has no negro blood in his veins, although there were one or two negroes in the lot.

There was quite a large percentage of children in the lot. These we believe will grow up in this country to be good citizens and industrious people. The report of most of the managers of the plantations where the Porto Ricans have been employed, that have been imported the last few months is that their physical condition has much improved since they arrived on the plantations, and although poor workmen at first they are now as a rule giving good satisfaction.

In closing, your committee wish to reiterate that the Board of Health should, before allowing Porto Ricans to land here, exercise every precaution to prevent the introduction of smallpox or other infectious diseases.

Respectfully submitted,  
H. P. BALDWIN,  
N. RUSSELL,  
D. KALAUKALANI.

Three of the Porto Ricans have pneumonia and have been taken to the Queen's Hospital.

COPY OF ATTACHED COMMUNICATION.

Office of Medical Officer in Command, Marine Hospital Service, U. S. Quarantine Station.

Honolulu, H. T., May 15th, 1901.

An Agent of the Board of Health was present.

(Signed) McVEIGH.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that the baggage of all passengers (Porto Ricans) landed at Quarantine ex S. S. "Colon" were disinfected by steam, all immigrants were given a hot bichloride bath, after bathing kimonos belonging to this station were furnished each passenger during the time that clothes worn on arrival were being disinfected by steam.

Trunks and other containers sprayed with 40 per cent Formalin.

(Signed) JNO. D. McVEIGH,  
Supt., U. S. Quarantine Maunaloa.

Senator "Oily" surprised the members by moving to adopt the report. It took some minutes before the members could catch their breath, and upon the president putting the motion, adopted it with a whoop.

House Bill No. 1, providing a special appropriation of \$30,000 for the expenses of the extra session, was then called for its second reading.

Immediately after the clerk had read the title, Senators Baldwin, Carter and White were on their feet, clamoring for recognition. White shouting his "I move to pass the bill."

The president recognized Mr. Carter, who sarcastically moved to increase the amount of \$5,000, as this body was just as dignified as the last, and did not see why an equal amount should not be appropriated.

Upon "Oily's" motion the bill passed second reading.

Senator Baldwin moved to place the bill for third reading today. "What's the use of that," said Crabbe; "make it an order for this afternoon" (Wednesday).

The bill was placed on the order of the day for today.

The surprising event, as well as the most sensational, was "Oily's" double somersault.

When the appropriation bill was called, he moved to place all the items in the Attorney General's Department, in the hands of the Judiciary Committee.

Instantly there was heard cries of "kokuu" from all the Republican members, Carter remarking it was the most sensible thing he had heard during the session.

Senator Russell, who had been sitting half asleep, demanded to know what that "most sensible remark" was. Upon being informed he said he was doubtful as to the compliment, as the Judiciary Committee did not enjoy the confidence of the House.

He objected to the motion on the ground that it would take too long a time for them to report.

Senator Baldwin said it was because "Oily" was from Maui, that such a good motion was made. He mentioned a talk he had had with Judge Humphreys at the lunch table, at which the distinguished jurist advised that the right course to pursue in regard to cutting salaries, was to go to heads of departments and find out from them what positions should suffer.

Senator Russell offered an amendment, that the Judiciary Committee should act in conjunction with a like committee from the House.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, he said, was composed of three Republicans and they were mixed with some good Independent blood, some good results might follow.

"Where's your three Republicans?" inquired Carter; "Cecil Brown and Crabbe are the only Republicans on the committee—he's not one," pointing to "Oily."

"Yes," said Dr. Russell, "he's a Republican; didn't you know that?" "Oily" rolled his eyes and smiled, evidently pleased at the compliment.

Dr. Russell also contended that as there were so many large lump sums in the section, and so many high salaried officials, the committee might be influenced for friendship's sake, and necessary reductions would not take place. He favored the Senate going into a committee of the whole in order to investigate the different items. No disputes would then arise as to the right or wrong of their decisions.

Kanaha and Achi followed in the same strain, and before they got to the hands of the clock they got to 12.

Senator Brown's motion to take a recess until 2 p. m. cut out any further flow of "hot air."

When the item referring to the pay of police in Hawaii was reached, the fun commenced.

"Oily" Bill Kanaha, Kalaauokalani, Russell, Brown, Achi and others sprang to their feet and demanded recognition. What was said could not be ascertained, as the noise they made was terrific.

During a full Russell shouted "I move to reduce the amount to \$300."

The president gave Senator White the floor, who moved to refer the item to the Judiciary Committee.

"No," he shouted Kanaha. "I move to refer it to a special committee of five, to be selected by the chair."

This motion prevailed, and the president appointed Cecil Brown, of Oahu; Brown, of Maui; "Oily" Bill White, of Maui; and Kalaauokalani, to serve on the committee.

The salary of the Deputy Sheriff of Maui, \$3,100, was reduced to \$2,800. "Oily" Bill, as usual, made a vigorous fight on anything pertaining to Maui, and in his humble way to square himself with his constituents at this late hour.

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asking whether the Organic Act specifically prohibited the House taking up general legislation during the special session. Kanaha stated that he had been given legal advice that there was nothing in the act to prevent it, and also that the time of the session might be extended for an unlimited period.

At 11 o'clock, with Makekau in the chair, the House went into a committee of the whole to consider the salary appropriation measure.

The first item taken up was the allowance for the ex-queen for the next biennial period, and its discussion occupied the balance of the morning session.

The debate was entirely in Hawaiian, with Kanaha, Kunaiake and Kanaha as the orators. The translations showed that practically the same argument was being bandied back and forth between the three. Monsarrat moved the further consideration of the measure was unnecessary, and Makekau asked them to quit arguing unless they could find a new point of question.

Puiki then took his turn and repeated the remarks, while Keki, who was feeling talkative, acted as an interpreter. Makekau finally got tired and put the question.

The original motion, as introduced by Dickey, was to insert an item of \$10,000 for Queen Liluokalani. Kunaiake had raised this to \$12,000, and Kanaha saw the latter amount, and raised again to \$15,000 this latter sum finally finding the favor of the majority. With a consciousness of "something attempted, something done," the House then took a recess until 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

On coming to order in the afternoon, Mr. Makekau again took the chair as chairman of the committee of the whole and the consideration of House Bill 2, being the salary appropriation bill, was resumed.

The entire afternoon was spent on the first page, and half of the second page of the Governor's estimates, which was the basis of the bill. There seemed to be a division among the members, and no party vote was taken during the entire session. Mr. Dickey (Rep.), of the finance committee, led the fight for reduction of salaries on behalf of the Republicans, and Mr. Emmeluth (Ind.) for his party, but neither of them seemed to have votes enough from their party friends to carry their ideas.

Mr. Emmeluth constantly reminded the House that every dollar voted for salaries meant that much less for roads and bridges and general public improvements, and warned the members not to go home without voting their constituents liberal sums for local improvements. Mr. Dickey declared he was in favor of "Americanizing" the salaries, and made his strongest speech on the question of pay of stenographers.

Mr. Monsarrat, however, who is generally considered a Republican, criticized Mr. Dickey for his lack of consistency in recommending one thing as a member of the finance committee, and advocating another on the floor of the House. Mr. Robertson was absent all day, and that possibly accounted for the lack of unity among the Republican members.

On the Independent side, the speaker often spoke in debate and used his thorough knowledge of parliamentary law to secure his ends when defeat stared him in the face. He made a number of times to pass the salary appropriation bill in exactly the